Chapter. 80

Burnt Field ②

3月のライオン

March comes in like a lion
Chica Umino

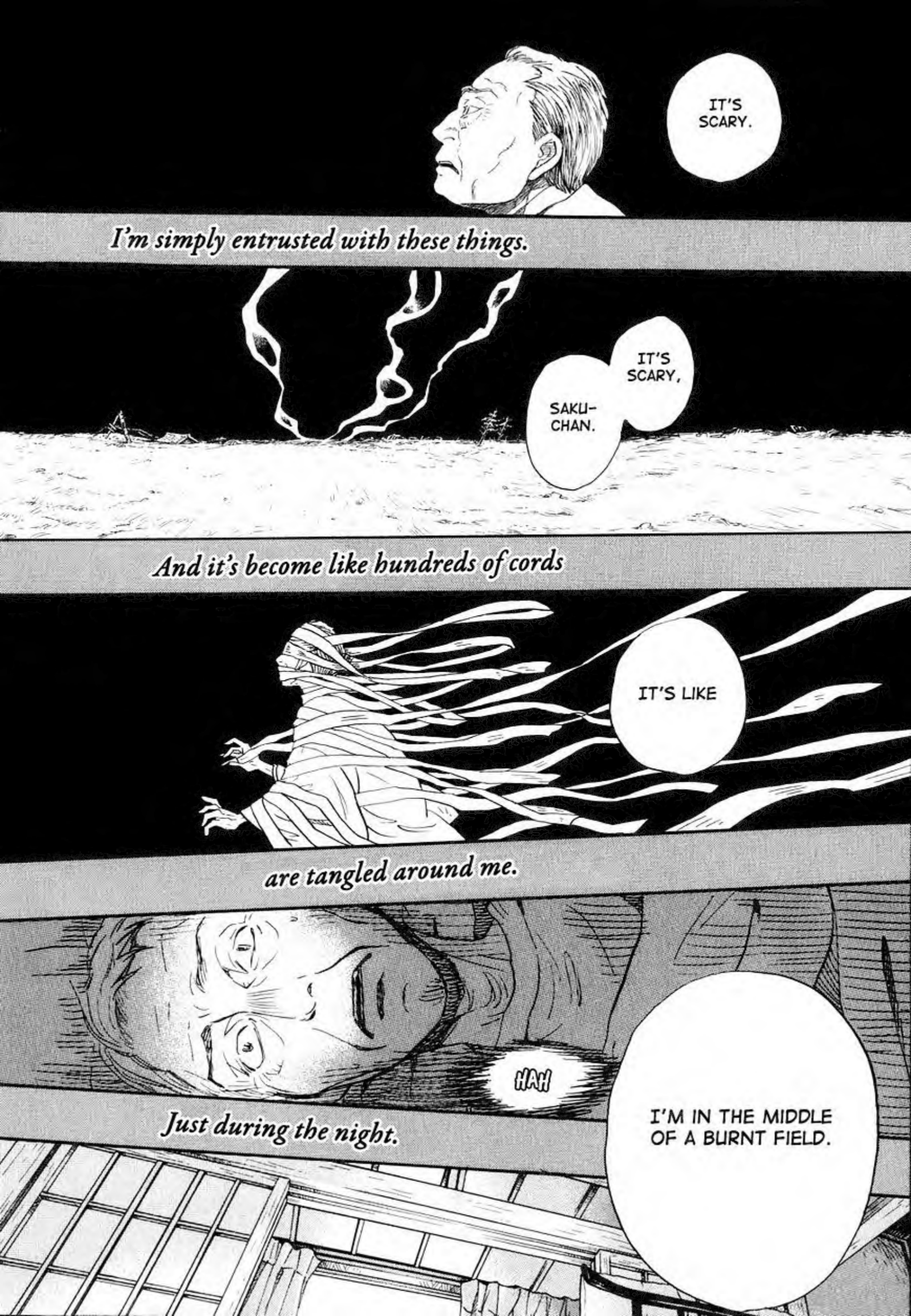
I know.

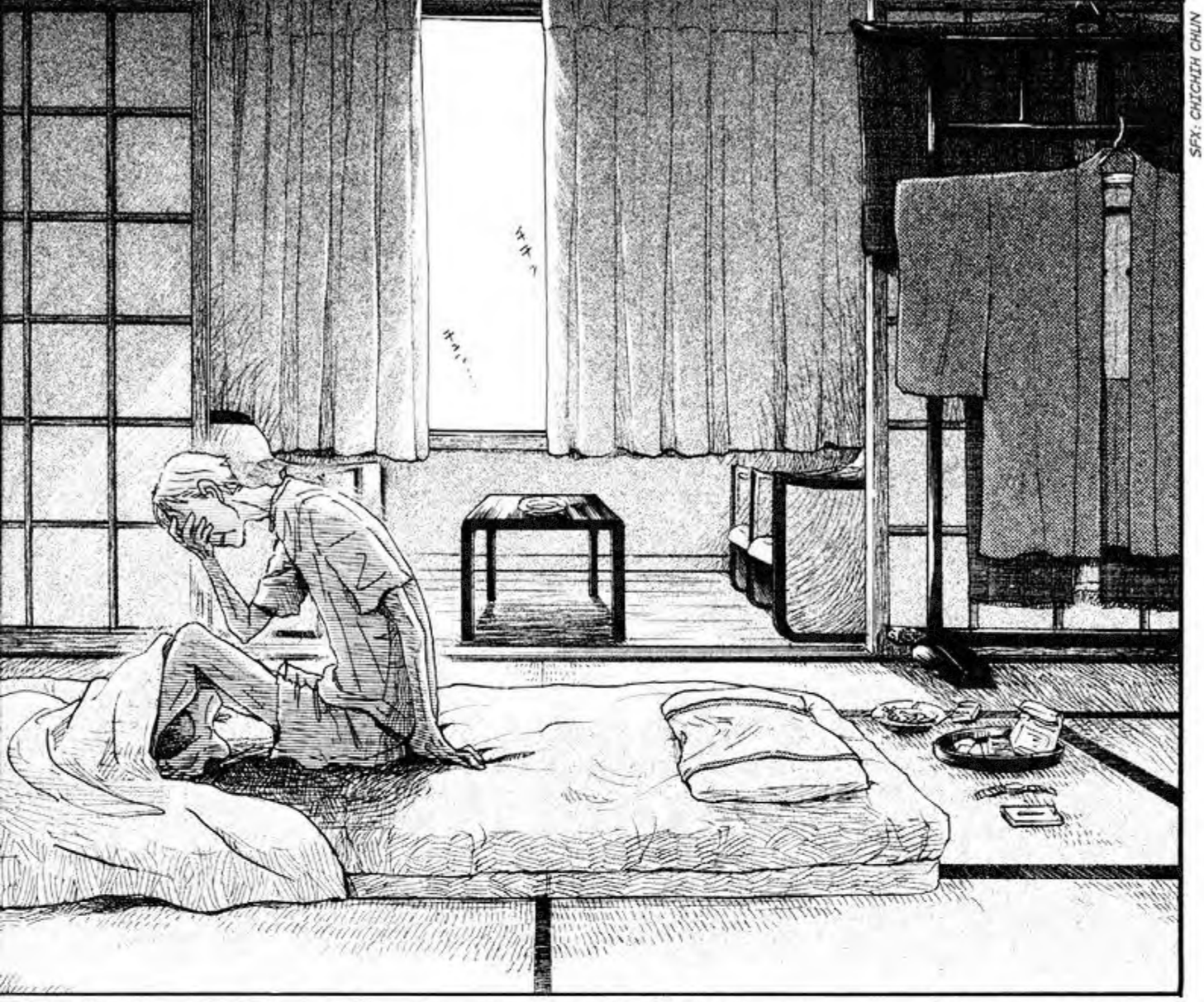
I know!

IN MY PLACE...
PLEASE, ACHIEVE THE DREAM I COULDN'T
BUT HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN MAINTAIN YOUR POSITION IN A-CLASS?
SAKU-CHAN, PLEASE...
YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP GOING, PLEASE.

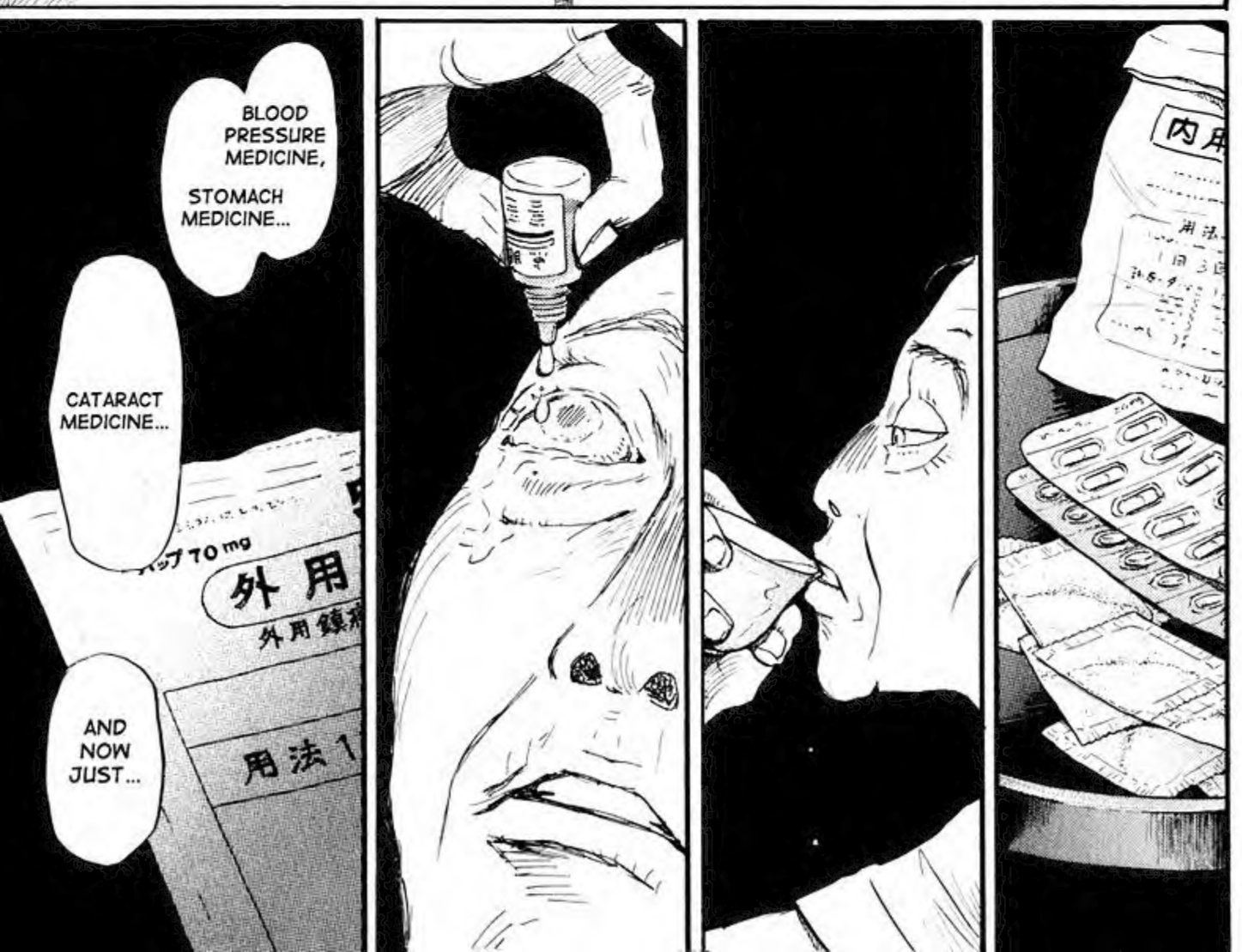
I know that the ones saying those things

don't feel like they're casting a curse on a person.


IT'S SCARY.
I'm simply entrusted with these things.
IT'S SCARY, SAKU-CHAN.
And it's become like hundreds of cords
IT'S LIKE
are tangled around me.
HAH
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A BURNT FIELD.
Just during the night.



SFX: CHICHIH CHUN



...ACCCH!
WELL, EVEN IF I STICK THESE ON NOW,
YOU CAN BET THEY'LL STOP WORKING AS SOON AS I GET TO THE GOOD PARTS...
.....
OKAY THEN...
GUESS IT'S TIME
TO GET GOING...

OKAY,
THE ELDEST CLASS-A PLAYER WITH HIS ETERNAL TITLE ON THE LINE, YANAGIHARA KISHOU
AND THE CONSTANT HARD-WORKER SHIMADA 8-DAN LOOKING TO WIN HIS FIRST TITLE.
WHICH ONE WILL WIN...?
清流園
WHOEVER WINS
IT'LL HAVE A LUKEWARM HEADLINE.
Haha..
SHH...
QUIET DOWN.

SHIMADA 8-DAN IS COMING IN.
GOOD LUCK, KAI

—I want to protect them.

...No matter what it takes.

—No matter what happens!!

9 AM

—WELL EVERYONE, IT IS NOW TIME TO BEGIN.

WOULD SENTE, YANAGIHARA KISHOU PLEASE GO AHEAD.

LET'S HAVE A GOOD GAME.

SENTE YANAGI-HARA KISHOU

7-6 FU.

—GOTE SHIMADA 8-DAN

8-4 FU.

HUH?!
An edge Fu...
1-6 FU?!
SFX: PASHIH
YANA-GIHARA KISHOU
1-6 FU
— And on move 3
SFX: PASHIH
HE'S JUST GONNA KEEP ON
ADVANCING ON THE EDGE?!
THERE'S NO WAY I'M LETTING THAT GET TO ME.
—BUT STILL
WHAT'S HE UP TO?
SFX: SUHH

Is he saying he's giving up 2 moves so go exchange the kakus?
You want me to trade kakus in exchange for being up a move?
This damn spectre...
WOAH. I'VE SEEN THIS STRATEGY BEFORE!
IN A MANGA!!
1-5 FU?!
HE'S PUSHING EVEN FURTHER!
So cool!
OOHHH
A... A manga?
What manga?
I'll gladly accept being up two moves on you,
but I will not let you have the initiative!!
—But,
I refuse!
SFX: PASHITH

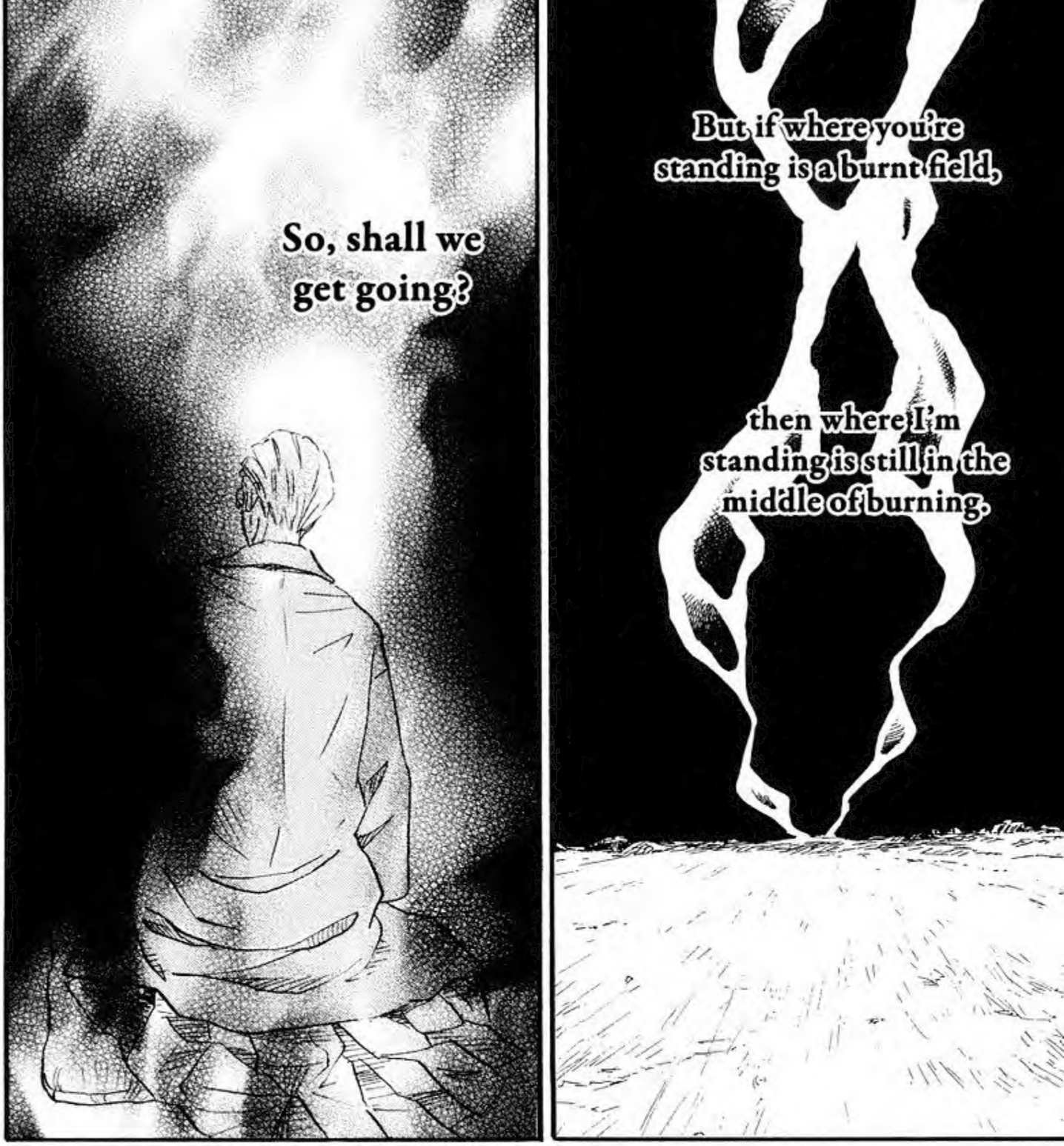
formations that are hard to pac any name on begin.
with the push on the first file and the kaku exchange 4th file kisha
this battle.
Sente
2-1 Kaku Promotion...

第5局
AND THIS IS MY FIRST TIME SEEING THIS FORMATION
They both persisted.
There were when both had mountains of skills and experience...

the balance of the situation was constantly fluctuating...
—As the march approached the endgame
Shimada-san stubbornly fought back against Yanagihara Kishou's research.
—And then
in the evening

Yanagihara
Kishou
Kishou

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE UP-AND-COMING YOUNG PLAYERS?
HAVE YOU CONSIDERED RETIRING IF YOU GO DOWN IN CLASS?
HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN MAINTAIN YOUR POSITION IN A-CLASS?


But if where you're standing is a burnt field,
then where I'm standing is still in the middle of burning.
So, shall we get going?

even 'losing' are never
'winning'——and
things that can be decided all that easily.

So today I'll be a fireball again
and suffer to my heart's content.
パシッ
PASHIT
Chapter. 80 END

HOW DOES RETIREMENT WORK IN THE SHOGI WORLD?

Because shogi is a trade where you use your mind, it has the unique quality of having players active much longer than those in physical sports. And as I wrote in column 3 there are many players that stay active for a very long time;
though as you might expect, those players make up only a portion of all players - most retire after a certain point. Games and matches are very exhausting, so one needs to give it up at some point.

There are two ways people retire: one is to quit voluntarily - of course, each person is free to retire from active play whenever they so choose - the other way is to systematically retire. To put it simply, when a player gets to a certain age and can't win anymore they have to retire. It's a harsh part of reality but in the world of matches, you could say there's no way around it. The overwhelming majority tend to go this way.

Without getting into the specifics, if you gain 3 demotion points in the lowest ranked class, C-Class Group 2, you retire 10 years after that. If you are over 60 years old, you retire even before 10 years pass. There is a free-class system where one does not play rank-deciding matches. When you are there and reach age 65, or else are there for 15 years, you retire.
If you do not lose rank in the rank-deciding battles, you can keep playing however long you keep it up. There is no upper limit. The income received per class for each rank-deciding match has had smaller differences as of late, but since retirements are involved with them you could say that these are weighty matches to shogi players.

In extreme cases, even if a new 4-dan has a formal debut, because they start in C-Class Group 2, if they gain demotion-points in three consecutive years, they can be forced to retire in 13 years (but if they can gain the regulation win ratio in that period, they can return to C-Class Group 2).

Now we're getting into a more personal story but I didn't think about retiring at all until around age 35 (I didn't even know about the regulations I wrote about earlier). But now that I'm 42 I'm thinking a bit about the future. I wonder how long I'll be able to play shogi... The idea of immersing myself in matches for my whole life does have some sense of accomplishment to it but at the same time, it feels a bit empty to me. No matter how old you get, losing matches is tough... And then from the age perspective, it's a shogi player's destiny to eventually not be able to win. But well, that's still a long ways off so I'll just keep doing my best for now.

By the way, even after shogi players retire the fact that they are staff at the Japan Shogi Association does not change. Their duties just spread to things outside of playing matches. Once a shogi player, always a shogi player.

HI WA MATA NOBORU

THE SUN WILL RISE AGAIN

3-GATSU NO LION VOLUME 8

RAW PROVIDER:	MARIS
TRANSLATOR:	KEWLO210
REDRAWER:	KEWLO210, ORTHIO
CLEANER:	KEWLO210, ORTHIO
TYPESETTER:	KEWLO210, ORTHIO
QCER:	KEWLO210, ORTHIO

THANK YOU FOR DOWNLOADING OUR RELEASE
VISIT OUR SITE AT HIWAMATANOBORU.COM